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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 09812.0134-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Steffen GUTMANN et al.)	Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
)	
Application No.: 10/593,150)	Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
)	
Filed: September 18, 2006)	Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned
)	
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)	
DETECTING PLANE, AND)	
ROBOT APPARATUS HAVING)	
APPARATUS FOR DETECTING)	
PLANE (AS AMENDED))	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of this application.

Copies of the listed foreign and non-patent literature documents are attached.
Copies of the U.S. patent publication are not enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Computer generated English translations of the Japanese Patent Publication Nos. 2001-062566 and 07-093541 are enclosed. An English translation of International Publication No. WO 2005/087452 is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.


Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

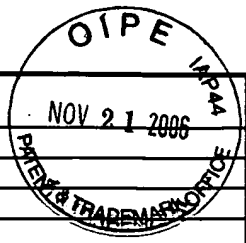
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 21, 2006

By: 
Michael R. Kelly
Reg. No. 33,921



IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	10/593,150
			Filing Date	September 18, 2006
			First Named Inventor	GUTTMANN et al.
			Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
			Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
			Attorney Docket Number	09812.0134-00000
Sheet	1	of	1	

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-2004-0013295	01-22-2004	Sabe et al.	
		US-2005-0131581	06-16-2005	Sabe et al.	
		US-5,546,476	08-13-1996	Mitaka et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO 2005/087452 A1	09-22-2005	Guttmann et al.		Yes
		JP 2001-062566	03-13-2001	Okamoto		Yes
		JP 07-093541	04-07-1997	Mitaka et al.		Yes

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		A. HOOVER et al.; "An Experimental Comparison of Range Image Segmentation Algorithms"; Transaction on Pattern Analysis Machine Intelligence.	
		L. IOCCHI et al.; "Visually Realistic Mapping of Planar Environment with Stereo", Int. Symposium on Experimental Robotics (ISER), 2000.	
		K. OKADA et al.; "Plane Segment Finder: Algorithm, Implementation, and Applications"; Int. Conf. on Robotics and Automation (ICRA); 2001.	
		X. Y. JIANG et al.; "Fast Segmentation of Range Images into Planar Regions by Scan Line Grouping"; Machine Vision and Applications; 7(2); 1994.	
		A.W. FITZGIBBON et al.; "Lack-of-Fit Detection Using the Run-distribution Test"; ECCV (2) 1994.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.